

Message Text

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ACTION EA-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 AID-05 CIAE-00 COME-00 EB-08 FRB-03
INR-10 NSAE-00 ICA-11 TRSE-00 XMB-02 OPIC-03
SP-02 LAB-04 SIL-01 OMB-01 IO-13 SS-15 NSC-05
/096 W

-----093453 241222Z /50

R 240753Z AUG 78
FM AMEMBASSY BANGKOK
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 9936

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E.O.11652: NA
TAGS: EFIN, TH
SUBJ: CALL ON FINANCE MINISTER

REF: BANGKOK 24342

1. DURING AMBASSADOR'S COURTESY CALL ON MINISTER OF FINANCE SUPAT SUTHATHAM MORNING OF AUGUST 24, MINISTER EXPLAINED HE WOULD NOT BE HEADING THAI DELEGATION TO IMF/WORLD BANK ANNUAL MEETING IN WASHINGTON. FINANCE UNDER SECRETARY CHANCHAI LEETAVORN WILL HEAD DELEGATION. HE GAVE AS REASON NECESSITY OF REMAINING IN BANGKOK TO SHEPHERD BUDGET THROUGH NATIONAL LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY. THIS IS A RATHER FEEBLE EXCUSE BECAUSE PASSAGE OF BUDGET AS SUBMITTED BY RTG IS A FOREGONE CONCLUSION. REAL REASON FOR DECISION IS UNDOUBTEDLY SUPAT'S DISCOMFORT IN MOVING INTO LIMELIGHT AS HE IS A SHY MAN WITH LIMITED ENGLISH CAPABILITY.

2. ONLY OTHER SUBSTANTIVE POINT RAISED DURING CALL WAS EXPRESSION OF HOPE BY MINISTER SUPAT THAT U.S. INTERNAL REVENUE SERVICE WOULD BE UNDERSTANDING WHEN UNION OIL SUBMITS PETITION ON DOUBLE TAXATION RELATING TO NATURAL
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GAS PRICING AGREEMENT WITH RTG. MINISTER OF INDUSTRY KASEM CONFIDED TO AMBASSADOR EARLIER THIS WEEK AGREEMENT WOULD BE SIGNED BY MIDDLE OF SEPTEMBER. AMBASSADOR RECOMMENDED RTG CONSULT WITH UNION AND POSSIBLY HAVE CHANCHAI DISCUSS PROBLEM WITH U.S. TREASURY AND IRS OFFICIALS DURING HIS WASHINGTON VISIT. MINISTER EXPLAINED RTG IS MODIFYING PETROLEUM LAW TO ACCOMMODATE

UNION BUT THERE ARE LIMITS TO WHAT IT CAN DO. ABRAMOWITZ

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NNN

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
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Channel Indicators: n/a
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Concepts: FINANCE, MINISTERIAL MEETINGS, MEETING DELEGATIONS, BANKS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 24 aug 1978
Decaption Date: 01 jan 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
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Disposition Date: 20 Mar 2014
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
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Litigation Codes:
Litigation History:
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